

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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## THE ANNUAL MESSAGE OF GOV. BLEASE

Remarkably Mild Document  
for "Colie."

ADVISES NEW MEMBERS  
AGAINST PITFALLS

In Message of over Twenty Seven Columns Gov. Blease Reiterates Old Views and Adds Some New Ones though All Couched in Terms Unusual for Him.

The annual message of Gov. Cole L. Blease delivered yesterday before the general assembly was furnished in advance to several papers which has supported him in the past. From one of these, The Newberry Herald and News, The Advertiser takes several passages found below. The message was twenty-seven columns length and was a very mild deliverance for the governor.

### Message.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly: It is with a great deal of pleasure that I welcome you to the session of 1913. Some familiar faces of your last body are not seen among your membership today. The changes have been many. The people of South Carolina have spoken, and we all must abide by their decision, whether it be for us or against us. But, coming fresh from the people, as you do, and having been re-endorsed by them recently as I have been, it is incumbent upon us to lay aside any personal feelings we may have, and any political differences with each other, and join together in the effort to bring our most diligent and most thoughtful consideration to the solution of all public questions confronting us, and endeavor to do those things only which are for the best interests of all people, both black and white, of our grand Commonwealth.

I am proud to say, notwithstanding I have just passed through one of the most bitter campaigns ever waged against a human being, that, as governor, I have no ill will towards any man, save those who went out of their way to use as campaign material against me those things outside of political record, commonly called falsehoods, in an endeavor to injure my personal reputation. That, however, should have no influence in our consideration of what is best for the State. Some of my friends were defeated; some of those who were not political supporters were elected; but it was done by the sovereign people, and I have no complaint to make. Turning my back upon the past, my eyes are to the future, and it is my earnest desire the information you may see with fairness and with justice and to do that only which is the will of my Heavenly Father, and I pray to him daily to guide and direct me, that I may do that which is for the common good of the people of my State, and accomplish the purpose for which He has given me my life. For what I have done in the past, whenever it may have been, or wherever it may have been, I have no apologies to offer to any man or set of men, and no excuses to make.

I beg leave to reiterate my inaugural address of 1911, my annual message of 1912, and each and every message which I have sent to the general assembly since I have been governor, and to ask you to read each one of them, and give them your careful consideration, laying aside any personal or political feeling that you may have towards me; and in the course of this message, in making certain recommendations for your consideration, I shall refer you to my message of the last general assembly, in order that, if you desire the information, you may secure it, and, further, in order to save making this message too long and tedious.

### A Word to the New Members.

There has been, in the past, in vogue in the house of representatives, a rule or system, by which new members have been caught and sometimes deceived, viz: Committeemen, when they go into their room for organization, are presented by some member with a resolution, to the effect "that this committee discuss all measures before us among ourselves, that we

(Continued on Page Five.)

## MISS MARY E. FRAYSER TO CONDUCT CAMPAIGN

Campaign of Education in the Schools of the County to Stress School Improvement and Beautification.

Miss Wil Lou Gray, county supervisor of rural schools, has received a letter from Miss Mary E. Frayser, of the state department of education, stating that she would be glad to visit Laurens county and make addresses in different schools as provided for by a recent act of the legislature. Miss Gray has written to Miss Frayser to come and she will be here to commence the campaign on January 21st. She will make eight addresses to the school children and patrons of the county. No definite program has been arranged as yet, though it is known that the campaign will be closed with a joint meeting of all teachers, trustees and patrons who can attend at the Laurens graded school Saturday the 25th.

Miss Frayser was prompted in her desire to visit Laurens county by a reading of the Laurens County School Journal, which she had seen. Thinking that a county progressive enough to have such a creditable journal printed for its school children was a good field to work in, she wrote and asked if she might come. Just recently she has been making addresses in Marlboro county and she states that the children, teachers and patrons have been wonderfully enthused in the matter of school improvement. Since this is such an important phase of school work, she hopes that the trustees and all interested people will be present at the lectures. Miss Frayser's plea is for improved school buildings, play grounds, gardens, crockery, bench work, sewing etc. The children become intensely interested in these things if they are once started in the right path and Miss Frayser hopes that the opportunity will be given a large number of Laurens county children to become interested in the work.

## MANY IMPROVEMENTS NOTED IN CLINTON

Knights of Pythias Give Annual Banquet in the Remodeled Hotel. Death of Mrs. Colvin Adams. Death of Near Relatives of Several Prominent People.

Clinton, Jan. 14.—The new year found Clinton ready for it and with a showing of which the citizens are not ashamed.

The Knights of Pythias ended the old year and ushered in the new with their eighth year-end banquet. This banquet was especially brilliant on account of its beautiful setting in the remodeled hotel dining-room. Mr. John Young has expended more than \$10,000 on improvements on this building.

### New Dwellings and Stores.

Many new dwellings and stores give evidence of the growth and prosperity of Clinton. The new dormitory at the Presbyterian college is said to be the most excellently equipped and fitted in the south. The boys celebrated their moving in on the second by a bonfire which occasioned them much delight.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Ferguson's new home on Hampton avenue is one of the prettiest residences in Clinton.

Mr. Joe A. Phinney and Mr. G. A. Copeland have built fine brick stores on Musgrove street.

Mr. P. S. Jean's new residence is a great addition to West Main street.

Many other improvements have been made during the year, as has been chronicled in this correspondence from time to time.

### Mrs. Colvin Adams Dead.

Mrs. Colvin Adams died at her home here about 2 o'clock Tuesday, Jan. 14th. For many years she has been in poor health. She was the widow of the late Mr. Colvin Adams and the mother of Mrs. B. L. King and Miss Emma Adams who both survive her.

For many years Mrs. Adams ran the hotel here and she has a wide circle of friends among the traveling public who will regret her death. She had many warm friends in Clinton who will sorely miss her.

The funeral arrangements have not yet been made but the burial will probably be at St. Mary's church of which she was a life long member and where her husband is buried.

Miss Emma McCrory left today for Asheville, N. C., to make her home with Mr. and Mrs. Granville Taylor.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENED YESTERDAY

Forty Day Session One of Expectancy.

RUMORS RIPE  
OF CONFLICTS

Lines will Probably be Tightly Drawn and the Governor and his Opponents Will Wage a Warfare. Many New Members make Outcome Uncertain.

The general assembly of South Carolina convened for its annual session of 40 days yesterday at noon. One of the most important pieces of legislation which is to be introduced is the bill providing for compulsory education, of which Senator Hall of Cherokee, is the author. A bill, drawn by F. H. McMaster, State insurance commissioner, for the purpose of creating "a state life insurance fund for the granting of life insurance and paying annuities and to provide the administration of the same," will be introduced in the general assembly.

It has been announced that a bill providing for a high license system for the sale of intoxicating liquor in original packages in Charleston will be placed before the general assembly.

Senator B. R. Tillman, who was re-nominated in the Democratic primary last summer, will be re-elected United States senator by the general assembly soon after it convenes. The inauguration of the governor will be held as soon as the returns from the general election are opened and canvassed. In 1911 the inaugural exercises were held seven days after the general assembly convened.

### Many New Members.

In the next general assembly 16 of the 41 senators will begin to serve their first legislative terms. In the house there are 90 new members who were elected last November. The voters returned only 34 of the members of the last house of representatives who asked for re-election.

The exercises incident to the convening of a new general assembly are of perennial interest to all South Carolinians. In the senate, the process is much simpler than in the house of representatives. Charles A. Smith of Timmonsville, the lieutenant governor and president of the senate, will take the chair and call the senate to order. After which the clerk will call the roll of the senate. Then the roll of the counties in which elections were held to fill vacancies in the senate will be called. When the senators-elect hand in their credentials and present themselves before the bar of the senate, the oath of office will be administered to them by the president.

The address of President Smith to the senate will follow. Then will come the election of a president pro tem, the election of a clerk, election of a sergeant-at-arms, election of a reading clerk, and an election of a chaplain. After these elections, the senate will send a message to the house of representatives to notify it that it has organized and is ready for business.

The first step in the organization of the house of representatives will be the call to order by James A. Hoyt, clerk of the last house or "late house" as the Journal calls it. The election of a temporary chairman will follow. He will take the oath of office, present his credentials. The clerk will call the roll of the house by counties and the members present will produce their credentials and be sworn in by the temporary chairman.

The election of a speaker for the session will next occupy the members of the house. The member who is elected to this important office will take the chair and deliver an address to the house. The house will then proceed to elect a clerk, reading clerk, sergeant-at-arms and chaplain. A message will then be sent to the senate and the governor to notify them that the house has organized and is ready for business. The drawing for seats is also an incident in the organization of the house.

After these preliminaries of organization, the house and senate are ready for their 40-day session.

## FIVE YEAR SENTENCE FOR ROBERT LAWSON

Jury Brings Out Verdict of Manslaughter.

TRIAL CONSUMED  
BUT ONE DAY

Slayer of W. F. Lawson, his Father, Convicted before a Jury of his Peers. Appeal has been Filed with Supreme Court for a New Trial. Bail Granted but not Put Up.

Robert Lawson, charged with the murder of his father, W. F. Lawson on the streets of Clinton October 28, 1912, was found guilty of manslaughter by the jury which tried him Wednesday. John M. Cannon, Esq., his attorney, made a motion for a new trial which was refused. Judge Prince thereupon sentenced the prisoner to five years on the public works of the county or in the state penitentiary. The defendant's attorney filed an appeal to the supreme court for a new trial and asked that bail be granted. Judge Prince granted bail in the sum of \$3,000. This has not yet been put up and the prisoner is now in the county jail.

The trial of Robert Lawson occupied the entire day Wednesday, the jury going to their room about six o'clock in the afternoon and coming out about nine o'clock. The evidence in the case went to show substantially the same facts as reported in this paper immediately following the tragedy.

Robert Lawson was living on land owned by his father, but rented from his two brothers who had contracted to buy it. The night before the killing, W. F. Lawson, who lived near Lanford, went to the home of Robert Lawson, where his two brothers, Victor and Eddie, from whom he rented the land, also boarded. The next morning W. F. Lawson asked Robert Lawson for the bale of cotton then unghined in the yard as payment on rent. Robert Lawson refused to give up the cotton, declaring that he owed it to the bank. Some words followed and W. F. Lawson had Victor and Eddie Lawson to load the cotton on the wagon. Victor Lawson testified that while they were loading the cotton Robert Lawson stood in the doorway with a pistol in his hand in a threatening attitude. After the cotton was loaded Robert Lawson mounted the wagon and carried it to the ginney where it was ginned and the seed sold. From here it was carried to the town of Clinton. W. F. Lawson and Victor Lawson following behind in a buggy. Arriving at the First National Bank the father and brother had more words over the cotton, the father finally getting into the wagon, taking hold of the lines and driving toward the warehouse with Robert Lawson standing in the rear. Victor Lawson followed the wagon in the buggy and testified to seeing Robert Lawson pull his pistol and commence shooting at his father who was standing rather sideways driving with his right hand. Robert Lawson's testimony as to the shooting was that his father drew his pistol and threatened to shoot him when he, Robert Lawson, pulled his pistol and shot his father in defense of his "life and property". After the first shot, witnesses testified that Robert Lawson shot several times as his father was falling and then gathered up the lines to keep the mules from running away, one of which had been hit by a stray bullet.

The testimony in the case went to show that the father and son had been at odds for many years, that they had had trouble between them before and that the son had left the father's house because they could not get along together. Robert Lawson claimed that his father would not allow him to go to school and that was one reason why he left home. He testified that his father had tried to shoot him once before when living on the Counts place.

The trial attracted considerable attention, the court room being crowded throughout the day. Among the witnesses and lookers on were the father-in-law of the young man, J. F. Fletcher, of Cross Keys, and the prisoner's wife, whom he married somewhere more than a year ago.

The court was occupied a portion of the day with the trial of the case of the State vs. O. P. Goodson and James W. C. Jones, Jr., H. S. Blackwell and Geo. A. Browning were sworn to Columbia Monday afternoon. Before leaving Mr. Jones announced that he was now introducing a "Terror" land system bill, one very much like the one introduced last year but with several changes.

(Continued on Page Five.)

## REV. W. E. THAYER CALLED TO GREENWOOD

Pastor of First Baptist Church Called to South Main Street Church in Greenwood. Has not Reached a Decision.

Rev. W. E. Thayer, pastor of the First Baptist Church here, has been called to the pastorate of the South Main Street Baptist church of Greenwood. When asked Monday as to the acceptance of the call, Mr. Thayer replied that he had not reached any decision in the matter but that he had the call under consideration and would reach some conclusion very soon.

Mr. Thayer has been in Laurens since 1907 and has proved a popular minister and citizen. Since the beginning of his pastorate, the church has grown in membership and in good works with leaps and bounds. He has the peculiar faculty of enthusing his congregation with any work to be undertaken and enters himself into the work with great zeal and earnestness. He is an eloquent and able pulpit orator, being a deep student and thorough scholar. Besides being a minister to his own congregation, Mr. Thayer has always taken a deep interest in the town as a whole and is very popular throughout the city. Though his congregation and friends are confident that he will not decide hastily in this matter and give up his work here, they would regret very much to see him leave in case he accepted the call to Greenwood.

The Greenwood Daily Journal, in speaking of the call tendered to Rev. Mr. Thayer, has the following to say of him:

"After the sermon at South Main Street on yesterday morning, the committee of seven that had been appointed to secure a pastor, recommended that the church call Rev. W. E. Thayer, of Laurens. The report of the committee was accepted and a hearty and unanimous call was extended to Mr. Thayer.

"Mr. Thayer was born and reared in Charleston. He took his literary course at Richmond college, Virginia after which he graduated at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky. He was pastor for five years of the Baptist church at Rock Hill where he was very popular. So highly is he esteemed in Rock Hill, that repeated efforts have been made to have him return to that city.

"From Rock Hill he went to Kentucky, from which place he was called to Laurens. He has done fine work in Laurens, where he is held in high esteem, not only by his own folks, but by all the people of the city.

Mr. Thayer is a fine man, and a most excellent pastor, and preacher. The church has every assurance that he will accept its call and move to this city at an early day to take up the work.

"In this connection it is not amiss to say that the South Main Street church is a splendid opening for a man of Mr. Thayer's ability. He will receive a warm welcome and the hearty support of the entire membership. Besides the people of Greenwood are the folks that open their arms wide to receive most cordially such a man as Mr. Thayer."

### A NEW TAILOR.

Mr. E. E. Moore has Opened Shop in Block Opposite New Post Office.

The Laurens Tailoring Company is the name of a new concern that has just recently been opened in Laurens in the Dial-Gray building opposite the new postoffice. The proprietor, Mr. E. E. Moore has had many years experience in the business and expects to make good in the city. He has the exclusive agency for the Wolfshelm Bros. clothes, one of the largest made-to-measure houses in the country. Besides taking orders for clothes, Mr. Moore expects to do a pressing and French dry cleaning business in connection.

### From this County.

Scholar O. P. Goodson and James W. C. Jones, Jr., H. S. Blackwell and Geo. A. Browning were sworn to Columbia Monday afternoon.

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(Continued on Page Five.)

## INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE COUNTY

News Letters From Many Sections.

CORRESPONDENTS  
GIVE LOCAL NEWS

Happenings of Interest to Many People all over the County and to Those Who Have Left the Family Hearthstone and gone to Other States.

Eden, Jan. 13.—Mrs. Fate Crisp, of Enoree, spent several days last week with Mr. C. V. Hipp and family.

Mrs. Emma Reeves and Miss Sue Gray were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Mahaffey Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Owens were the guests of Mr. T. H. Dabb and wife Sunday.

Mr. M. W. Gray has returned home from Chappels Hill in Berkeley county where he has been on a hunting trip.

Miss Sophia Armstrong spent Friday night with Mrs. Isabella Brooks.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Dabb were the guests of Dr. J. W. Beason and wife Thursday night.

Madden, Jan. 14.—Everything is moving on "in the even tenor" of its way, in our little town. All have entered the new year hopefully. The sound of the axe is heard on the frosty morning as the farmer here and there is getting up fire wood and perchance clearing a bit of land for the coming crop. Over yonder perhaps one is getting out a few stock to have lumber sawed, to do repairing in houses or fences.

Miss Susie Langston was hostess last Wednesday to the Woman's Mission Society of Prospect. Owing to the inclemency of the weather only a few of the ladies could go. Those that did, had an enjoyable time. There will be another meeting held at the church Tuesday.

The many friends of Mrs. M. T. Allison will regret to learn she is not so well. She has been confined to her bed for the past few days, but was able to be up Monday. We trust she will soon be about as usual. "Aunt Mag" is a great favorite with all.

Mrs. John B. Wright, of Enoree, who is ever a most welcome visitor in our midst, ran down for a short stay with her grandmother, Mrs. Allison, Monday.

Mrs. John Q. Brown, was also a pleasant visitor recently. She was the guest of her aunts, Mesdames Allison and Teague.

Mrs. Thad Moore and baby, Lillian, spent a pleasant week with her parents and other friends near Rabun recently.

We extend a most cordial welcome to the new families that have cast anchor with us for another year, Messrs. Morris and Cheek. We trust to see their faces with us at Sunday school, as well as day school.

There has been such an influx of new scholars into our school that those of us "who dream, dream and see visions" know that the needed thing now is to vote a larger special tax and employ two teachers—perhaps three—instead of one. With our \$60 prize money we have a nucleus for building another room, already. Let some of our progressive patrons take the lead. No use to talk much. It is time for action. We have a fine teacher, but she can't accomplish the impossible. 65 scholars on the roll and a few more yet to come.

Dial, Jan. 13.—There has been a dearth of news in this little community. The holiday crowd has gone their different ways till vacation. While the "comers" and "goers" seem to be sticking close to their own home fires.

Miss Betty Abernethy has returned from a visit with her sister, Mrs. Burdette, near Danville.

The Messrs. Bramble of Dublin, were the guests of Messrs. Anna and Ellen Watson Tuesday night.

Mr. Joe Brainerd spent the week end in Greenwood visiting friends.

Mr. John Brainerd has returned to Thomasville to visit his parents.

Mrs. Kate Gray, left Tuesday for Lenoir, where he return having been delayed by the recent illness of her

(Continued on Page Four.)